

Customer No. 022844

PATENT



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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Hallen, Christiansen, Attring, Witte

Serial No: Unknown

Group Art Unit: Unknown

Filed: Herewith

Examiner: Unknown

Title: FLEXIBLE NETWORK

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Please enter the following preliminary amendment in the above-identified U.S. patent application which claims foreign priority to European Patent Application No. 00128309.2 filed on 12/22/00.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 1-10 and cancel Claim 11, without prejudice, as follows:

1. A remote communication system for use with a vehicle, comprising:
a first communication unit, located within a vehicle, said

first communication unit comprising a first transceiver, connectable with a long-distance wireless communication network, such as a cellular network; and a second portable communication unit, comprising a second transceiver, connectable with a unit for long-distance wireless communication, such as a cellular terminal, whereby said first and second communication units are connectable with each other using said long-distance wireless communication network, thereby establishing a remote two-way communication link between said communication units.

2. A remote communication system according to claim 1, wherein said second communication unit is connectable with said unit for long-distance communication using a short-distance wireless communication link.
3. A remote communication system according to claim 2, wherein said second communication unit is a fob unit.
4. A remote communication system according to claim 1, wherein said second communication unit is integrated with a cellular telephone terminal.
5. A remote communication system in accordance with claim 1, wherein said second communication unit further comprises a biometric sensor, for identifying a user.
6. Remote communication system according to claim 1, wherein a direct two-way wireless communication link is established between said first and second transceivers when said communication units are within a communication range from each other.
7. A remote communication system according to claim 6, wherein said first communication unit further comprises a first memory circuit being connected with said first transceiver, and said second communication unit further comprises a second memory circuit being connected with said second transceiver, whereby an information item, stored in any one of said memory circuits is transmittable to the other one of said memory circuits, over said direct communication link when established.
8. A remote communication system according to claim 1, wherein said first and second communication units each comprises an

identification device, whereby a request for connection from any communication unit is tested to be qualified before enabling a connection between said communication units.


9. A remote communication system according to claim 1, wherein said first communication unit is connected with at least one vehicle data network, such as a controller area network within said vehicle.
10. A remote communication system according to claim 1, wherein said first communication unit is connected with a vehicle computer within said vehicle.

R E M A R K S

The amendments herein are being made to eliminate multiple dependencies as well as conform to U.S. patent practice.

Please charge any cost incurred in the filing of this Amendment, along with any other costs, to Deposit Account 06-1510. If there are insufficient funds in this account, please charge the fees to Deposit Account No.06-1505.

Respectfully submitted,



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ATTACHMENT - MARKED UP VERSION OF THE CLAIMS

1. A remote communication system for use with a vehicle, comprising:
a first communication unit~~(1)~~, located within a vehicle ~~(2)~~, said first communication unit comprising a first transceiver~~(3)~~, connectable with a long-distance wireless communication network~~(16)~~, such as a cellular network~~(16)~~; and
a second portable communication unit~~(7)~~, comprising a second transceiver~~(9)~~, connectable with a unit for long-distance wireless communication~~(14)~~, such as a cellular terminal,
whereby said first and second communication units ~~(1,7)~~ are connectable with each other using said long-distance wireless communication network~~(16)~~, thereby establishing a remote two-way communication link between said communication units~~(1,7)~~.
2. A remote communication system according to claim 1, wherein said second communication unit ~~(7)~~ is connectable with said unit for long-distance communication ~~(14)~~ using a short-distance wireless communication link~~(20)~~.
3. A remote communication system according to claim 2, wherein said second communication unit ~~(7)~~ is a fob unit.
4. A remote communication system according to claim 1, wherein said second communication unit ~~(7)~~ is integrated with a cellular telephone terminal~~(14)~~.
5. A remote communication system in accordance with ~~any one of the preceding claims~~claim 1, wherein said second communication unit ~~(7)~~ further comprises a biometric sensor~~(18)~~, for identifying a user.
6. Remote communication system according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~claim 1, wherein a direct two-way wireless communication link ~~(8)~~ is established between said first and second transceivers ~~(3,9)~~ when said communication units are within a communication range from each other.

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7. A remote communication system according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~claim 6, wherein said first communication unit (1) further comprises a first memory circuit (4) being connected with said first transceiver (3), and said second communication unit (7) further comprises a second memory circuit (10) being connected with said second transceiver (9), whereby an information item, stored in any one of said memory circuits is transmittable to the other one of said memory circuits, over said direct communication link (8) when established.
8. A remote communication system according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~claim 1, wherein said first and second communication units (1,7) each comprises an identification device, whereby a request for connection from any communication unit is tested to be qualified before enabling a connection between said communication units.
9. A remote communication system according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~claim 1, wherein said first communication unit (1) is connected with at least one vehicle data network (6), such as a controller area network within said vehicle (2).
10. A remote communication system according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~claim 1, wherein said first communication unit (1) is connected with a vehicle computer (5) within said vehicle (2).
11. ~~A fob unit, for use in a remote communication system according to any one of the claims 1-10.~~